REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the current application. Claims 1-20 currently stand rejected. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1-20 are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) or 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Pat Pub 2005/0043045 to Cheng et al. ("Cheng"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for the reasons below.

Initially, Applicants have submitted a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 illustrating conception paired with due diligence of the subject matter of claims 1-20 prior to August 16, 2003 through at least August 26, 2003 (the filing date of the present application). Thus, Cheng, having a filing date of August 16, 2003, is not a proper reference under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) or 103(a) and cannot anticipate or render obvious claims 1-20. Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) and 103(a) is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of each of claims 1-20 in connection with the present application are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gary D. Yacura at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By

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